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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 03495-0190-00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Daniel LADANT et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1645
	)	
Serial No.: 09/555,649	)	Examiner: Zeman, R.
	)	
International Filing Date:	)	
December 4, 1998	)	
	)	
35 U.S.C. § 371 Filing Date:	)	
August 1, 2000	)	
	)	
For: A BACTERIAL MULTI-HYBRID	)	
SYSTEM AND APPLICATIONS	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

In reply to the Office Action mailed December 31, 2003, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper,  
beginning on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** follow the amendment sections of this paper, beginning on  
page 11.